

ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for reducing the amount of silt, sedimentation and pollution in storm water runoff as it passes across and through roofs, gutters, downspouts and other building components is disclosed. This is accomplished by placing a downspout filter comprising one or more water filtration or treatment elements directly into the flow of the fluid to be filtered or otherwise treated. Direct insertion of the downspout filter into a downspout at some point between the downspout inlet and outlet is preferable, such that all fluid passing through the downspout is forced to encounter this downspout filter. Such insertion may involve the cutting or separation of the downspout itself. This downspout filter also comprises one or more high flow bypasses to minimize the possibility of obstructions or backups, and, in addition to one or more filtration elements, may also comprises one or more additional water treatment elements, such as chitosan. Also provided is a secondary outlet and diversion valve, such that some or all passing fluid can be additionally treated to become potable or otherwise fit for personal or commercial purposes.

15